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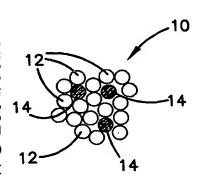
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(54) Title: PIGMENT AGGLOMERATES, THEIR MANUFACTURE, AND USE



(57) Abstract: A pigment agglomerate and method of making the pigment agglomerate. The agglomerate is a collection of pigment particles and at least one carrier particle, the pigment particles and carrier particle held together by interparticle forces such as magnetic forces, electrostatic forces, van der Waal's forces, and other physical or chemical interparticle forces. A chemical surface treatment or other treatment may be applied to either or both of carrier particles and pigment particles in order to improve the interparticle forces therebetween. No binder, such as a polymeric binder or adhesive, is used to adhere or maintain the particles together forming the agglomerates.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C09C1/36 C09C C04B14/30 C09C1/24 C09C1/00 CO4B18/02 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) CO9C CO4B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X WO 02/31060 A (BAYER AG; BUETJE KAI (DE); 1,4,6 HOHEISEL WERNER (DE); DUFF DANIEL GORDON () 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18) claims 1-3; example 1 X & US 4 946 505 A (JUNGK AXEL E) 1,4,6 7 August 1990 (1990-08-07) cited in the application example 3 EP 0 947 564 A (JOHNSON MATTHEY PLC) 6 October 1999 (1999-10-06) X 1 - 14paragraphs '0007!, '0010!; example 1 _/---Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 16 July 2004 23/07/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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